

**Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2002 and Earlier Census Years**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

All farms	2002	1997	Not adjusted for coverage					
			1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974
Farms . . . . . number	73,027	79,112	73,051	77,610	88,786	98,483	104,690	111,049
Land in farms . . . . . acres	27,310,833	27,673,285	27,204,780	27,250,340	28,526,664	28,726,114	29,472,473	29,094,794
Average size of farm . . . . . acres	374	350	372	351	321	292	282	262
Estimated market value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :								
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	913,251	736,255	773,141	539,181	402,970	538,886	524,718	221,774
Average per acre . . . . . dollars	2,425	2,136	2,126	1,548	1,262	1,837	1,854	846
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	7,386,281	6,854,940	6,606,816	5,516,277	5,392,170	6,092,937	5,401,250	3,294,038
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	102,242	86,662	90,447	71,219	60,935	61,982	51,640	31,151
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres . . . . .	3,510	5,249	4,254	5,026	5,931	6,101	4,873	4,181
10 to 49 acres . . . . .	16,162	15,120	12,604	12,191	12,971	15,183	14,257	13,420
50 to 179 acres . . . . .	19,991	21,580	19,606	20,239	23,824	27,513	31,203	36,499
180 to 499 acres . . . . .	15,862	18,746	18,231	21,327	26,720	31,723	37,099	41,756
500 to 999 acres . . . . .	9,847	11,642	11,619	12,833	14,320	13,879	14,019	12,842
1,000 to 1,999 acres . . . . .	5,896	5,447	5,414	5,115	4,407	3,606	2,895	2,122
2,000 acres or more . . . . .	1,759	1,328	1,323	879	613	478	344	229
Total cropland . . . . . farms	68,750	72,590	68,082	72,626	83,056	92,250	99,624	106,639
Harvested cropland . . . . . acres	24,171,260	24,186,942	23,920,923	24,164,457	25,102,092	24,748,112	25,159,492	24,399,558
Irrigated land . . . . . farms	56,083	65,560	62,712	69,425	79,986	89,124	96,432	102,729
acres	22,562,904	22,428,616	22,274,230	21,868,287	20,102,388	23,008,244	22,676,226	21,517,665
Market value of agricultural products sold (see text) <sup>2</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	7,676,239	8,634,730	8,556,486	7,336,864	6,376,801	7,313,529	5,906,275	4,665,390
Average per farm . . . . . dollars	105,115	109,146	117,130	94,535	71,822	74,262	56,417	42,012
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops . . . . . \$1,000	5,871,542	6,602,817	6,567,164	5,251,328	4,158,936	5,092,452	3,893,237	3,193,739
Livestock, poultry, and their products . . . . . \$1,000	1,804,697	2,031,913	1,989,323	2,085,535	2,217,865	2,221,076	2,013,039	1,469,611
Farms by value of sales <sup>3</sup> :								
Less than \$2,500 . . . . .	20,801	16,630	12,210	9,178	10,630	11,226	10,078	14,722
\$2,500 to \$4,999 . . . . .	4,316	5,713	5,107	5,613	6,741	7,417	8,430	8,463
\$5,000 to \$9,999 . . . . .	5,146	6,242	5,949	6,898	8,728	8,975	10,922	12,589
\$10,000 to \$24,999 . . . . .	7,980	9,440	9,082	11,800	14,962	15,315	19,381	(NA)
\$25,000 to \$49,999 . . . . .	7,258	8,420	8,243	10,363	13,313	14,707	18,892	(NA)
\$50,000 to \$99,999 . . . . .	8,052	9,395	9,290	11,572	14,765	17,376	19,720	(NA)
\$100,000 to \$499,999 . . . . .	16,629	20,216	20,153	20,380	18,588	22,366	16,706	11,021
\$500,000 or more . . . . .	2,845	3,056	3,017	1,806	1,059	1,085	529	254
Farms by type of organization:								
Family or individual . . . . .	64,468	67,182	61,748	65,752	75,409	83,715	89,658	(NA)
Partnership . . . . .	5,296	8,038	7,603	8,997	10,651	12,239	13,178	(NA)
Corporation . . . . .	2,584	3,158	3,043	2,361	2,135	1,866	1,348	(NA)
Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc . . . . .	679	734	657	500	591	663	506	(NA)
Principal operator by days of work off farm <sup>4</sup> :								
None . . . . .	33,260	32,396	31,043	33,728	38,565	42,422	48,448	43,148
Any . . . . .	39,767	42,404	37,953	38,703	43,651	47,562	50,938	43,135
200 days or more . . . . .	26,559	27,732	24,220	24,056	26,001	27,906	29,033	25,290
Principal operator by primary occupation <sup>5</sup> :								
Farming . . . . .	46,822	43,020	41,645	47,875	57,122	63,756	69,351	79,830
Other . . . . .	26,205	36,092	31,406	29,735	31,664	34,727	35,339	30,352
Average age of principal operator <sup>5</sup> . . . . . years	55.1	53.2	53.4	51.7	50.4	49.2	49.2	50.9
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	6,223,876	5,680,557	5,542,904	5,088,894	4,557,450	(NA)	(NA)	2,829,461
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :								
Livestock and poultry purchased . . . . . \$1,000	411,546	354,351	334,161	434,193	460,761	447,023	475,790	315,495
Feed purchased . . . . . \$1,000	528,144	583,150	567,098	531,978	451,832	477,619	404,412	400,796
Fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners <sup>6,7</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	731,424	726,810	714,914	645,280	564,393	712,705	530,912	408,562
Gasoline, fuels, and oils . . . . . \$1,000	280,056	315,472	309,146	322,542	299,486	480,860	282,731	205,536
Hired farm labor . . . . . \$1,000	421,803	353,685	344,362	300,090	275,128	225,820	191,852	118,134
Interest expense <sup>8</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	476,340	435,036	424,977	431,344	448,150	660,391	(NA)	(NA)
Chemicals <sup>6</sup> . . . . . \$1,000	559,165	558,393	548,362	439,672	336,428	344,575	225,556	138,115
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory . . . . . farms	19,928	25,825	24,452	27,405	33,305	41,028	45,572	54,509
number	1,359,010	1,512,898	1,437,697	1,601,261	1,885,444	2,315,397	2,591,583	2,898,721
Beef cows . . . . . farms	14,766	18,665	17,682	19,392	23,087	28,163	31,311	36,996
number	422,694	474,009	453,127	447,201	511,188	622,002	697,678	874,549
Milk cows . . . . . farms	1,658	2,259	2,238	3,050	4,304	5,812	7,021	9,642
number	114,101	127,526	127,702	151,503	186,371	206,827	210,267	237,505
Cattle and calves sold . . . . . farms	17,699	24,709	23,622	26,419	32,798	38,996	44,816	51,804
number	917,251	1,007,769	949,478	1,130,433	1,407,670	1,532,199	1,930,340	1,769,197
Hogs and pigs inventory . . . . . farms	3,929	7,385	7,168	13,433	17,084	21,646	28,227	31,689
number	4,094,706	4,677,231	4,679,166	5,641,115	5,642,991	5,988,994	6,205,722	5,327,643
Hogs and pigs sold . . . . . farms	4,313	7,641	7,447	14,142	17,837	22,814	29,290	35,118
number	11,178,721	9,390,266	9,374,726	10,330,124	9,879,960	9,531,614	9,219,000	9,024,521
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory . . . . . farms	1,672	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
number	3,290,313	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold . . . . . farms	239	127	115	123	296	349	370	437
number	82,974	365,769	363,353	60,004	435,555	138,331	136,510	208,295

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Table 1. Historical Highlights: 2002 and Earlier Census Years - Con.**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

All farms	2002	1997	Not adjusted for coverage					
			1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974
<b>Selected crops harvested:</b>								
Corn for grain	farms 41,032	49,416	48,443	55,685	66,600	73,372	78,643	82,696
	acres 10,742,787	10,780,900	10,710,072	10,770,985	9,162,711	11,383,178	11,052,177	9,567,774
	bushels 1,418,566,127	1,372,414,201	1,363,015,453	1,532,681,088	1,168,644,485	1,425,129,317	1,181,849,723	773,406,578
Corn for silage or greenchop	farms 3,271	3,872	3,774	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 109,847	122,477	119,116	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 1,638,995	1,948,803	1,892,873	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Wheat for grain, All	farms 8,592	14,973	14,822	17,061	21,356	28,080	21,501	38,817
	acres 581,084	984,815	983,556	1,075,805	954,990	1,452,686	849,634	1,678,393
	bushels 27,923,042	54,005,189	53,954,013	54,096,203	48,850,664	62,046,957	31,325,922	50,646,729
Winter wheat for grain	farms 8,592	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 581,084	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 27,923,042	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oats for grain	farms 2,109	3,709	3,588	5,635	8,540	8,940	11,500	(NA)
	acres 39,258	70,947	69,009	108,363	157,374	176,568	228,356	(NA)
	bushels 2,839,874	5,029,761	4,887,273	6,704,097	10,312,797	10,268,768	12,732,968	(NA)
Barley for grain	farms 59	117	117	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 1,852	2,209	2,219	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 111,960	120,948	122,228	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for grain	farms 664	1,139	1,117	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 56,921	77,636	76,990	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	bushels 4,510,917	6,441,270	6,392,482	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sorghum for silage or greenchop	farms 106	119	116	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 3,308	2,752	2,702	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons 33,155	29,410	28,995	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Soybeans for beans	farms 41,571	47,938	47,008	52,339	61,547	66,595	73,558	78,447
	acres 10,505,989	9,872,252	9,825,475	8,932,399	8,768,833	8,997,737	9,226,983	8,317,180
	bushels 438,990,297	417,919,609	415,716,620	373,563,650	329,323,117	335,976,354	301,061,189	205,382,348
Tobacco	farms 6	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 268	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds 513,940	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Potatoes	farms 84	89	87	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 6,825	4,358	4,358	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 2,077,578	1,314,847	1,314,767	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sweet potatoes	farms 36	3	3	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 40	1	1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt 6,715	74	74	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (see text)	farms 20,691	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 729,662	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	tons, dry 2,234,607	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Rice	farms 1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres (D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	cwt (D)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Sunflower seed, All	farms 87	56	53	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 1,580	1,818	1,813	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	pounds 1,549,546	2,157,194	2,156,638	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text) <sup>9</sup>	farms 1,107	1,314	1,262	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 70,430	67,925	66,780	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
All land in orchards	farms 830	852	734	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	acres 8,168	9,067	8,645	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

<sup>1</sup> Data are based on a sample of farms.  
<sup>2</sup> Data for 1974 include the value of forest products sold.  
<sup>3</sup> Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.  
<sup>4</sup> Data for 1997 and prior years do not include imputation for item nonresponse.  
<sup>5</sup> Data for 1974 apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorships) and partnerships.  
<sup>6</sup> Data for 1982 and prior years do not include cost of custom applications; data for chemicals include the cost of lime for 1978 and prior years.  
<sup>7</sup> Data for 1997 and prior years exclude cost of lime and manure.  
<sup>8</sup> Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.  
<sup>9</sup> Data for 1974 were from land area used.